



The New \$100 Note: What You Need to Know

Protecting and maintaining confidence in U.S. currency requires a combination of effective public education, law enforcement and security features. Continuously evaluating counterfeit threats across all denominations and introducing new designs helps the government stay ahead of currency counterfeiting.

A new \$100 note will begin circulating on February 10, 2011. Here is what you need to know:

Our Goal is a Seamless Introduction. The U.S. government is conducting a global public education program to inform those who use the \$100 note about the changes.

It Is Not Necessary to Trade in Old-Design \$100 Notes for New Ones. All U.S. currency remains legal tender, regardless of when it was issued.

Know Its Features. Know It's Real. The fight against counterfeiting depends on the public knowing how to use the security features in U.S. currency.

- Although less than 1/100th of one percent of the value of all U.S. currency in circulation is reported counterfeit, the \$100 note is the most widely circulated and most often counterfeited denomination outside the U.S.
- Protect yourself by using the new and enhanced security features in the redesigned \$100 note that thwart potential counterfeiters from producing high-quality fakes.

We incorporated two advanced and easy-to-use security features which offer a simple and subtle way to verify that a note is real:

- **3-D Security Ribbon:** A blue ribbon on the front of the \$100 note with images of bells and 100s.
 - Tilt the note back and forth while focusing on the blue ribbon. You will see the bells change to 100s as they move.
 - When you tilt the note back and forth, the bells and 100s move side to side. If you tilt it side to side, they move up and down.
 - The ribbon is woven into the paper, not printed on it.
- **Bell in the Inkwell:** A color-shifting bell, inside a copper inkwell, on the front of the note.
 - The inkwell and bell are both copper until you move the \$100 note. Tilt it to see the bell change from copper to green, an effect which makes the bell seem to appear and disappear within the inkwell.





We retained three highly effective security features from the old design in the new \$100 note:

- **Portrait Watermark:** Hold the note to light and look for a faint image of Benjamin Franklin around the blank space to the right of the portrait. The image is visible from either side of the note.
- **Security Thread:** Hold the note to light to see an embedded thread that runs vertically to the left of the portrait. The letters *USA* and the numeral *100* appear in an alternating pattern and are visible along the thread from both sides of the note. The thread glows pink when illuminated by ultraviolet light.
- **Color-Shifting 100:** Tilt the note to see the numeral *100* in the lower right corner of the front of the note shift from copper to green.

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